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All communications for insertion in the paper, all intelligence of every description, all confidential communications must be addressed to W. G. SETHEN, Editor of the National Whig, and must be post-paid, or they will not be taken up.

See Prospectus on 1st page.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 31, 1849.

A PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We are indebted to the New York Herald for the following message of the President of New Granada, delivered the 1st of last April. It is full of judicious recommendations and breathes a nobly progressive and tolerant spirit. We commend it to the special attention of the reader.

Interesting from New Granada.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC TO THE GRANADIANS.

FELLOW CITIZENS.—On assuming the arduous duties of the office of President of the republic, I have judged it proper that I should explain to you the principles which will form the guiding ones of my administration. In every republican country, it is highly necessary that those who are governed should know what are the rules of conduct which will be followed by those who govern them.

Ever faithful to those principles which triumphed in the electoral ballot-box, on the 7th of March last, you will find that I shall labor to support them, because the will of the popular majority is the one that is to be displayed in all the acts and measures of the government. I am fully convinced that all the political convulsions that have afflicted our country, as well as all the Spanish American States, have been owing to the disregard which their rulers have shown to the popular will, and striving to become teachers where they ought only to be the willing agents of the views of the majority. I shall not follow such examples: but you will find me ready to yield respectfully to the expressed opinion and voice of the majorities in the House of Representatives—the legal exponents of the national voice. Thus, New Granada will have the representative system in all truth, and the government will be of the people and for the people.

With these views, I shall unite cordially with the Houses, to procure a reform in the constitution, so that the entire governmental structure shall be a faithful expression of the principles of equality and republican rule. The constitution ought to preserve in all its parts the grand principles of equality, liberty, and toleration, those most precious fruits of modern civilization; and thus it will contain within itself the germs of all improvements that can in the course of time be developed. The only method by which a people can give stability to their institutions, is to lead a ready aid to the progressive development of their prosperity and to those varied and new exigencies which become necessary. The virgin regions of America are the ones destined by Providence to offer to the human race the most complete solution of that problem of government, viz: ruling all for the benefit of all. I am, for the good of my country, ambitious to do my part, and that most fervently, to bring about such a magnificent result. Public education, which is the imperishable basis upon which all our institutions ought to rest, will be the object of my greatest solicitude and special study. I believe that instruction ought to be free; but I also believe that the government ought to supervise it in its course, and assist it in the manner which increasing social necessities may require. In every republican government, where men are called to an active participation in the discussion of political affairs, it is not only the duty of the government to procure for them the means of general instruction, and assist them in the cultivation of the sciences, but it ought carefully to watch over the development of this same instruction, in order that this will of strength for the people shall not be distorted into a disturbing or distracting influence; and this duty is the more required in those countries which have but recently emerged from under the retrograde dominion of the Spanish monarchy, which dominion has left deep traces, that it has been impossible as yet thoroughly to eradicate. In my opinion, then, the work of public education ought only to be confided to citizens who are identified with the institutions and the progress of civilization.

The religion of our fathers, which is also that of the immense majority of Granadians, claims and will have my greatest respect and veneration; but, being convinced that it will not appear in all its purity, or completely fulfill its august mission, under those odious chains with which the tyranny of some monarchs has bound it to their thrones, I shall use my endeavors to restore it to its necessary independence, in order that it may shine with its full splendor, and diffuse itself under the auspices of its sanctity and excellence. In carrying out these views, religiously and democratically, I shall also respect all creeds and all forms of worship, because such is not only in conformity to the laws of the republic, but for its happiness and advantage.

Liberty, security, would be vain and idle words, if the tribunals of justice were not religiously and punctually to administer the laws. Nothing, in my opinion, is so urgent for the republic, as the bettering of what is termed the administration of justice. The poorer classes of society suffer immensely from the present condition of this branch of public administration, and I promise, that in as far as depends upon the action of the executive power, every thing shall be done that is possible for the introduction of radical and lasting reforms.

The press, that institution which is so indispensable for the progress of reason, and the practical working of the representative system, shall be most scrupulously respected by me as the chief magistrate of the nation. As to the abuse which is liable to be made of it, I believe that the antidote to that is to be found in the use of the press itself; and that, consequently, in no case ought it to be muzzle, under the pretext of maintaining it within its proper limits. The press ought to be allowed a free action as vast as that of thought itself. It ought only to be restrained when, by attacking private life, it is converted into a means of defamation.

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But not on this account are the considerations due from the nation to those brave men who have served faithfully and heroically in times past to secure her independence, to be overlooked. These debts of national gratitude shall never be denied by me in the exercise of my power.

In the direction of the public treasures you may rest assured, fellow-citizens, that I will preside with the most scrupulous care, and that every economy compatible with good service, shall be practised, that the products of the revenues, &c. shall never be diverted from the courses to which the legislatures may order them to be applied, and that in everything dependent on my authority, the fiscal system shall show the lively interest the administration takes to alleviate the industrious and poorer portions of the nation from those drawbacks and difficulties which might retard the increase of their store.

I shall sustain the liberty of industry, but I shall endeavor to prevent this same liberty from being converted into an oppressive and destructive inequality which so often attends on the accumulation of riches. Property is the first element of prosperity and comfort shall be faithfully respected.

The sacred rights of our creditors, both home and foreign, shall be attended to, as far as the resources of the public treasury and the subsistence of the government will permit. I shall occupy myself in this important affair, not only under the view that credit is an element of power, of glory, and grandeur, but, also, that it is an obligation which conscience and fidelity call on us strictly to fulfill.

Desirous to satisfy the increasing hopes and necessities of the country, I shall omit no measure calculated to promote and bring to a termination all those public works which can contribute to facilitate her commerce and develop her industry. Consequently, roads and means of communication—which I consider not only as elements of riches, but as means of civilization and good government—shall receive from my authority every impulse compatible with the resources at our command. On this point, I am confident that I shall leave nothing to be desired by the most ardent apostles of human progress.

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Resolved to maintain, with energy and decision, the independence and dignity of the republic in its relations with the other nations of the world, I shall observe towards them all such good faith, frankness and cordiality, as leads me to hope that, doing justice to the sincerity of these sentiments, New Granada may, during the period of my administration, count on the permanent maintenance of its friendly international relations.

Identified as my administration is with the principles which direct the governments of Venezuela and the Ecuador, I entertain the firmest hope that far from disturbing our relations, each succeeding day will find them more strengthened for the prosperity of the three States, and the definitive and irrevocable establishment of the democratic form of government in the territory over which flows the glorious flag of Columbia.

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One of the most interesting questions connected with the establishment, at the south, of mills for the manufacture of cotton, is the question of the slaves for this sort of labor. It is of the highest importance to the south, that this capacity should be favorably demonstrated, but the general belief is to the effect, that the negroes have filled a position subordinate to that of a regular factory operative, while white laborers have been able to do the work of the negroes with less cost, and in most instances with more skill. In my opinion, then, the work of public education ought only to be confided to citizens who are identified with the institutions and the progress of civilization.

The religion of our fathers, which is also that of the immense majority of Granadians, claims and will have my greatest respect and veneration; but, being convinced that it will not appear in all its purity, or completely fulfill its august mission, under those odious chains with which the tyranny of some monarchs has bound it to their thrones, I shall use my endeavors to restore it to its necessary independence, in order that it may shine with its full splendor, and diffuse itself under the auspices of its sanctity and excellence. In carrying out these views, religiously and democratically, I shall also respect all creeds and all forms of worship, because such is not only in conformity to the laws of the republic, but for its happiness and advantage.

Liberty, security, would be vain and idle words, if the tribunals of justice were not religiously and punctually to administer the laws. Nothing, in my opinion, is so urgent for the republic, as the bettering of what is termed the administration of justice. The poorer classes of society suffer immensely from the present condition of this branch of public administration, and I promise, that in as far as depends upon the action of the executive power, every thing shall be done that is possible for the introduction of radical and lasting reforms.

The press, that institution which is so indispensable for the progress of reason, and the practical working of the representative system, shall be most scrupulously respected by me as the chief magistrate of the nation. As to the abuse which is liable to be made of it, I believe that the antidote to that is to be found in the use of the press itself; and that, consequently, in no case ought it to be muzzle, under the pretext of maintaining it within its proper limits. The press ought to be allowed a free action as vast as that of thought itself. It ought only to be restrained when, by attacking private life, it is converted into a means of defamation.

Strong in the popular suffrages, in the recollection of my intentions, in the sincere and disinterested love which impels me in favor of the dearest interests of my country, and the intelligent and approved of all good citizens, I indulge the hope of preserving the public peace and the observance of the laws, without any necessity for the maintenance of any great permanent force. As long as the government is the work of the popular will, and it is disposed to govern with public opinion, there can be no necessity for supporting an expensive body of armed men. There will be merely maintained what is necessary for the protection and security of the coast, and the repression of delinquents; and this force only until the perfect organization of a national guard has been effected, for which organization I shall labor assiduously.

But not on this account are the considerations due from the nation to those brave men who have served faithfully and heroically in times past to secure her independence, to be overlooked. These debts of national gratitude shall never be denied by me in the exercise of my power.

In the direction of the public treasures you may rest assured, fellow-citizens, that I will preside with the most scrupulous care, and that every economy compatible with good service, shall be practised, that the products of the revenues, &c. shall never be diverted from the courses to which the legislatures may order them to be applied, and that in everything dependent on my authority, the fiscal system shall show the lively interest the administration takes to alleviate the industrious and poorer portions of the nation from those drawbacks and difficulties which might retard the increase of their store.

I shall sustain the liberty of industry, but I shall endeavor to prevent this same liberty from being converted into an oppressive and destructive inequality which so often attends on the accumulation of riches. Property is the first element of prosperity and comfort shall be faithfully respected.

The sacred rights of our creditors, both home and foreign, shall be attended to, as far as the resources of the public treasury and the subsistence of the government will permit. I shall occupy myself in this important affair, not only under the view that credit is an element of power, of glory, and grandeur, but, also, that it is an obligation which conscience and fidelity call on us strictly to fulfill.

Desirous to satisfy the increasing hopes and necessities of the country, I shall omit no measure calculated to promote and bring to a termination all those public works which can contribute to facilitate her commerce and develop her industry. Consequently, roads and means of communication—which I consider not only as elements of riches, but as means of civilization and good government—shall receive from my authority every impulse compatible with the resources at our command. On this point, I am confident that I shall leave nothing to be desired by the most ardent apostles of human progress.

The isthmus of Panama has commenced that majestic career which its happy geographical position has entitled it to expect. Be assured that this important part of our republic shall receive liberally all the aid its prosperity demands. Its immense importance and rapid development shall not be confined by a timorous or peevish policy.

Identified as my administration is with the principles which direct the governments of Venezuela and the Ecuador, I entertain the firmest hope that far from disturbing our relations, each succeeding day will find them more strengthened for the prosperity of the three States, and the definitive and irrevocable establishment of the democratic form of government in the territory over which flows the glorious flag of Columbia.

JOSE HILARIO LOPEZ.
BOGOTA, 1st April, 1849.

SLAVE FACTORY LABOR.
We are disposed to think, with the Philadelphia *North American*, that the whole question of factory labor to make it capable for factory employment, turns upon the point, whether it is compatible with the interests of slave owners to give their slaves so much education as to produce this result.

One of the most interesting questions connected with the establishment,